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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1762

PATENT  
Docket No. HOE96/F318

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fritz Schwertfeger Group Art Unit: 1762  
U.S. Serial No.: 09/308,770 Examiner: Kirsten Jolley  
Filed: October 28, 1999 Confirmation No.: 6628  
For: **METHOD FOR PRODUCING ORGANICALLY MODIFIED,  
PERMANENTLY HYDROPHOBIC AEROGELS**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 12, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are included in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.